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FIFTIETH
ANNIVERSARY
of the
Chambersburg
Church of the Brethren

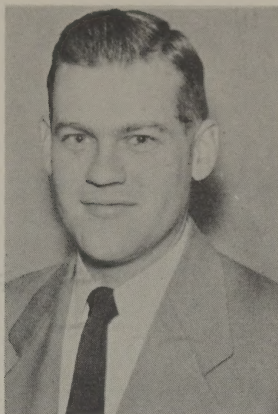


October 12, 1958

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THE PASTOR'S GREETING



Reverend Joseph M. Long
Pastor

Anniversaries have deep and abiding meanings for all who share in them. In business, they signify achievement and accomplishment; in marriage, an anniversary denotes the sacredness of wedding vows and the meaning of true love. A church anniversary has meaning too, in that it reminds us of the struggles and joys of beginning a new church.

The fiftieth anniversary is usually thought of as a "golden" anniversary. It implies the wealth of importance attached to the occasion such as golden memories, the richness of heritage and the challenge of tomorrow with its spiritual treasures.

The next fifty years will bring forth many changes; possibly even more than were noted in the last fifty years. Some will be for the good of all, while other changes will serve as a deterrent to the betterment of the world. On the other hand, there are many things which do not change. The gospel we preach today is primarily the gospel preached in 1908. Our witness today and tomorrow must be essentially the same witness which Alexander Mack, the founder of the Church of the Brethren, gave in his day. These unchanging spiritual needs of man must be met by the church of today by presenting a changeless Christ to a changing world.

We welcome all who are guests on this memorable occasion. May this Fiftieth Anniversary be a time for all of us to rededicate our lives to the Master and His church, so that we may continue to effectively proclaim His timeless message to all the world.

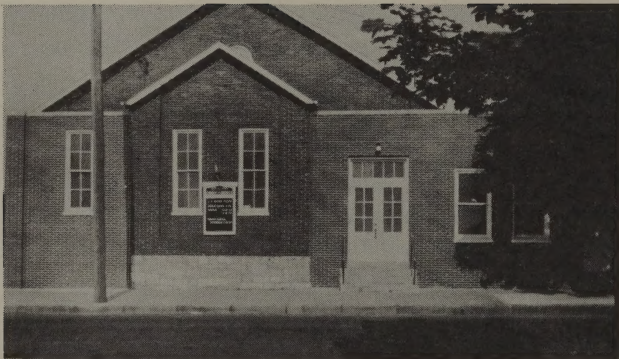
Sincerely yours,

JOSEPH M. LONG, Pastor

OUR CHURCH -- THEN



ORIGINAL CHURCH BUILDING — Dedicated November 29, 1908



ENLARGED CHURCH BUILDING — Dedicated June 19, 1938

AND NOW



PRESENT CHURCH BUILDING — Dedicated September 30, 1956

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

OCTOBER 12, 1958

MORNING WORSHIP, 9:30 A.M.

Joseph M. Long, Presiding

The Organ Prelude ----- MRS. PAUL KARPER, *Organist*

Call to Worship

"Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth,
The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon His Name, to all that
call upon Him in truth."

*Hymn No. 39 ----- "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness"

*The Invocation and Choral Response

Anthem—"Praise Jehovah's Name" ----- Van Woert
Church Choir, RICHARD KRAMER, *Director*

The Reading of God's Word ----- Acts 2:37-47

Choral Call to Prayer

The Morning Prayer

Hymn No. 494 ----- "For Christ and the Church"

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

"Trust in the Lord and do good and so shall thou dwell in the land,
and verily thou shalt be fed."

Offertory Anthem—"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" ----- Watts

The Sermon ----- "A SENSE OF EMPIRE"

REV. NORMAN J. BAUGHER, Elgin, Illinois
General Secretary, Church of the Brethren

*Hymn No. 321 ----- "God of Grace and God of Glory"

*Benediction, Choral Amen, Chimes

*The Organ Postlude

* The Congregation Standing

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

12:00 —2:00 P. M.—LUNCHEON ----- Fellowship Hall

2:15 — 2:30—ORGAN MEDITATION ----- Mrs. Paul Karper, Organist

2:30 P. M.—“AS I REMEMBER”

G. A. W. Stouffer, Moderator, Presiding

*Hymn No. 320 ----- “Faith of Our Fathers”

*Invocation ----- REV. M. B. MENTZER

Hymn No. 273 ----- “The Lord’s My Shepherd”

Speaker ----- REV. SAMUEL D. LINDSAY

Choral Selection

Speaker ----- REV. RALPH G. RARICK

Introductions

Speaker ----- REV. WAYNE A. NICARRY

Choral Selection

Speaker ----- REV. JOSEPH M. LONG

Closing Remarks ----- G. A. W. STOUFFER

*Hymn No. 502 ----- “Forward Through the Ages”

*The Benediction

*The Organ Postlude

* The Congregation Standing

EVENING WORSHIP, 7:00 P. M.

The Organ Prelude ----- Miss LOIS ARMSTRONG, *Organist*

*Hymn No. 58 ----- "Savior, Breathe an Evening Blessing"

*The Invocation

Hymn Singing ----- RICHARD KRAMER, *Director*

The Reading of God's Word

Hymn Anthem—"Jesus Calls Us" ----- Jude

The Church Choir and Quartet

The Evening Prayer

Singing of the Lord's Prayer ----- Mallott

The Church Choir and Congregation

Music by the Junior Choir ----- MRS. HUBER SHETTER, *Director*

Anthems by the Church Choir

"God of All Nations" ----- Ziegler

"O Church of Christ" ----- Frederick

The Message — "THE CHURCH IN 2008" ----- PASTOR JOSEPH M. LONG

*Hymn No. 329 ----- "Rise Up, O Men of God"

*The Benediction, Choral Amen and Chimes

*The Organ Postlude

* The Congregation Standing

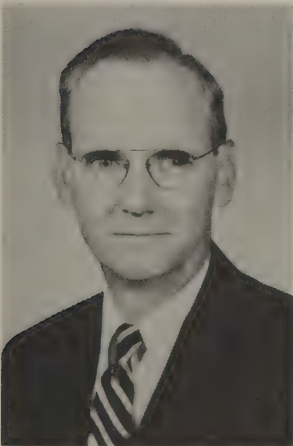
THOSE WHO SERVED



The Late Rev. Charles H. Steerman
Pastor 1924 to 1926



The Late Rev. George S. Batzel
Pastor 1926 to 1928



Dr. Calvert N. Ellis
Pastor 1928



Rev. Samuel D. Lindsay
Pastor 1928 to 1930

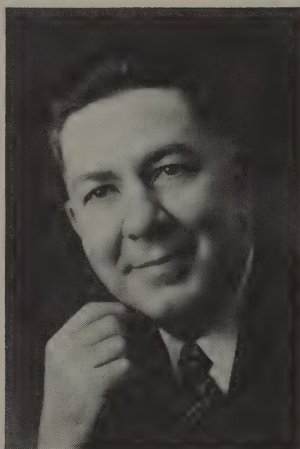
THOSE WHO SERVED



The Late Rev. A. L. B. Martin
Pastor 1930 to 1932



The Late Rev. C. E. Grapes
Pastor 1932 to 1941



Rev. Ralph G. Rarick
Pastor 1941 to 1946



The Late Rev. Trostle P. Dick
Pastor 1946 to 1948



Rev. Wayne A. Nicarry
Pastor 1949 to 1953

A Brief History of the Chambersburg Church of the Brethren

For many years after the Brethren began to settle in the southern part of the Cumberland Valley, no organized Church of the Brethren was established in the community of Chambersburg. The community held a unique position in its relationship to the congregations surrounding it in the early years. It was divided geographically between the Ridge, Back Creek and Falling Spring congregations. It was possible during this period for a person to move from one place in the borough to another, and at the same time move into the bounds of another congregation. During the year of 1905 there was an attempt made to establish a church in the town itself, but this venture was short lived because of opposition by neighboring congregations and a general lack of interest.

In 1906 Emory P. Trimmer and his wife, of York, took up their residence in Chambersburg. They sought out a Church of the Brethren, but found only the rather complicated congregational boundaries mentioned above. When they first moved to Chambersburg they lived in the confines of the Back Creek congregation, and subsequently placed their church membership there. Having moved to another part of the town later, they found themselves in the geographical area of the Ridge congregation, but because of better public transportation they attended services in the Falling Spring congregation.



EMORY P. TRIMMER
Instrumental in starting the
Chambersburg church.

This strange and rather amusing situation disturbed Brother Trimmer to the extent that he began to locate other members of the church living in Chambersburg, with the purpose of eventually starting a congregation in the borough. After finding

a number of other members, a letter was written to Elder Joseph A. Long, of York, then president of the District Mission Board, seeking the help of the district in establishing a congregation in Chambersburg. The District Mission Board, composed of Elder Long, William A. Anthony, C. L. Baker, Henry Beelman and Samuel M. Stouffer, advised the Chambersburg folks to attempt to hold mid-week prayer services as a beginning. This they did

for the first time on December 11, 1906, in the home of Brother and Sister Trimmer at 43 South Main Street. According to Emory Trimmer's notes the following were present at that first service: Elder and Mrs. Peter S. Lehman, Milton Lehman and wife, Milton Brumbaugh and wife, Jason and Annie Brumbaugh, Jacob Keller and wife, William Trout and wife, Emmert Bear and wife, a Brother Ashway and wife, John Osler and wife, Sister Rebecca Foutz of Waynesboro and the Trimmers.

For a time these cottage prayer meetings continued in various homes and interest in the formation of a new congregation was growing. The District Mission Board was again contacted and met in Chambersburg early in 1907. At that time they advised that a hall or some larger quarters should be secured for the purpose of holding regular services. Elder William A. Anthony, of Shady Grove, was asked



43 South Main Street in the early 1900's. The first service was held in the second floor apartment.



The Jacob Keller home on E. Washington Street where services were held before the church house was erected.

to oversee the work during this initial period. The Jacob Kellers, of 621 East Washington Street, offered their home for the regular meeting place and it was gratefully accepted by the group. The Keller home was to serve for nearly two years as the meeting place of the Church of the Brethren in Chambersburg.

On the first Sunday of March, 1907, a meeting was called for the purpose of organizing the work. Brother Anthony was in charge of effecting the organization, which resulted in the election of Emory Trimmer as Sun-

day School superintendent, Mrs. Trimmer as the teacher of the small children, Sister Emmert Bear as teacher of the youth and Brother J. J. Kriner as the adult class teacher. The organization completed, the new

mission held Sunday School classes, a preaching service, a mid-week service and a Ladies' Aid group was organized.

According to the paper written by Emory Trimmer with regard to the early days of the work in Chambersburg, we note these remarks about the first service in March of 1907: "Brother Anthony preached the first sermon, using the phrase of II Cor. 6:1 ('We then as workers together with Him . . .') as his main theme and many times repeated — 'We learn to do by doing.' He encouraged us as a new group of worshippers to work and work together, with him. A wonderful and forceful sermon it was."

Growing interest prompted the District Mission Board, later in 1907, to call a special meeting to consider buying a plot of ground with the purpose of erecting a house of worship. Members of the board present were Joseph A. Long, William Anthony and Henry Beelman. Brother Long was to preach and read his text (I Peter 4:16-18), but following a few introductory remarks began to feel ill. He fell into a state of unconsciousness

and the meeting was dismissed. The next day, Saturday, with Brother Long still ill and in bed, the board decided to purchase a lot on South Fourth Street and to proceed with the erection of a church building.

Early in the year of 1908 ground was broken for the new church by Elder Joseph A. Long, president of the District Mission Board. The building committee was composed of Milton Brumbaugh and Jacob Keller, with Abram Thomas as the general contractor. The church building was completed in the fall of 1908 and dedicated on November 29, 1908. According to an article in the town newspaper, THE PUBLIC OPINION, appearing on Monday, November 30, 1908, the following description was given:

"The dedication yesterday of the Brethren church, Fourth Street and Madison Avenue, brought to town a large number of the members of the church from all parts of the county . . . They saw a church 40 x 60 feet, one story in height, with basement. The building is of brick structure . . . Entrance to the main room is through a vestibule on the Fourth Street end of the church. The auditorium is seated with pews so constructed that the backs can be placed together, forming tables for use on communion occasions. Three rows of electric lights — 6 in each row — placed in the ceiling, will supply an abundance of light . . ."

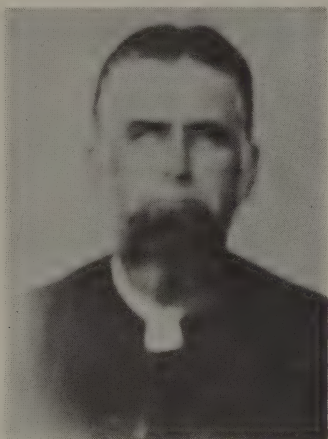
Rev. A. L. B. Martin, of Harrisburg, preached the dedicatory sermon on



THE LATE REV. WILLIAM A. ANTHONY — First presiding elder.

the theme, "The House of Prayer," using the text of Matthew 21:13 ("And [Jesus] said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer . . . ") He preached again in the evening service on the subject, "Ye Are the Light of the World," using the familiar words of Jesus from the Sermon on the Mount. The total cost of the new building was \$4,637.48 and the plot of ground was purchased for \$750.00.

The congregation was officially organized in June of 1910 and was duly accepted by the District Meeting, after which the District Mission Board ceased to have oversight. Brother William A. Anthony was the first presiding elder of the congregation numbering fifty-one at the time of or-



THE LATE REV. PETER S. LEHMAN — Early leader and elder.

ganization. After the death of Brother Anthony in 1911, Elder Peter S. Lehman assumed the leadership of the new congregation, serving as its elder until 1924. During these early years, Brother Lehman directed the work of a small, but vital and growing congregation. The music interest of the church began to develop early with the appointment of Blaine Bear as church choirster in 1909. He served in this capacity and as choir director until 1947.

The congregation, seeing the need for an increased program of Christian service, decided on September 13, 1922, to call its first paid pastor. The following March a ministerial committee was formed to implement the decision of the church council. On June 1, 1924, Brother Charles H. Steerman was called to become pastor of the Chambersburg congregation. Following the service of Brother Steerman came Elder George S. Batzel in March of 1926, serving for a period of two years. Calvert N. Ellis, then a teacher at Wilson College, served as interim pastor for three months in 1928 following the resignation of Brother Batzel.

Rev. Samuel D. Lindsay was called by the church to assume the pastorate for the summer months of 1928. However, after serving for three months he was elected to remain as pastor for an additional two years. In 1930 Rev. Lindsay resigned to further his education and his successor was Rev. A. L. B. Martin, who served from October of 1930 to March of 1932.

Elder C. E. Grapes came next as pastor to the church in November of 1932 and served for nearly nine years. During this time, the District Mission Board in 1936 turned over the legal title to the church property to the Chambersburg congregation. Seeing the need for additional space for church pur-

poses and a parsonage, the church acquired on April 1, 1938, the double frame dwelling on the corner of Fourth and Liberty Streets, adjacent to the church building. Following the purchase, a major remodeling program was undertaken by the church; the first since the initial edifice was erected. A new entrance was constructed in order to connect the church and the newly acquired dwelling which was to be used partially for Sunday School rooms. An apartment was also provided for the custodian and the south side of the dwelling served as the first parsonage, with the Grapes family as occupants. A service of dedication was held on June 19, 1938, with Dr. R. W. Schlosser of Elizabethtown as the speaker. Also during this period the Salem church house was acquired from the Ridge congregation.

With the termination of the services of Brother Grapes in March of 1941, Rev. Ralph Rarick was called to the pastorate and began his service on June 15, 1941. During his pastorate a baptistry was installed in a Sunday School room and extensive renovations were made to the basement of the church. The men of the church provided the major portion of the labor involved in these improvements. It was during this period that a Men's Work organization was effected and the first church directory prepared.

Rev. Trostle P. Dick was called to be the pastor of the church and assumed his duties in July of 1946. During his term of service, the house to the north of the church was purchased and was used as the home for the custodian in order that his former apartment could be used for other church purposes. Other redecorating was done to the church and the sanctuary was carpeted throughout. A culmination of these improvements resulted in the 35th anniversary observance in September of 1947. In August of 1948 came the untimely death of Pastor Dick. Following his death, Rev. Wayne Nicarry, of the Falling Spring congregation, was secured to fill the pulpit until a pastor was engaged. After serving for a number of months on this interim basis, Rev. Nicarry was called to become the pastor and took up his full-time duties on June 1, 1949. Seeing the need for the expansion of the church facilities, a committee was established to make tentative plans for a building addition. A plan finally evolved for this addition but action was postponed due to the resignation of Pastor Nicarry in 1952. Brother Nicarry, however, continued to serve as pastor until a successor was found. During this period the church acquired the property on the southeast corner of Fourth and Liberty Streets to be used for a parking lot. Changes were also made to the parsonage in order to use it for Sunday School rooms and it was decided to house the new pastor in the house to the north of the church.

In January of 1953, Rev. Joseph M. Long, then a student at Bethany Biblical Seminary, was called to become the pastor of the church beginning on June 1, 1953. The need for enlarged facilities continued to become more

apparent with every service of the church. A planning committee was formed in the fall of 1953 to make plans for an enlarged sanctuary and additional space for the Christian education program of the church. Later the church employed the Church Building Counselor, Mr. Forrest U. Groff of Elgin, Illinois, to draw preliminary plans for the enlarged building. After the acceptance of these plans a Building Fund canvass of the membership was undertaken with commitments received totaling over \$67,000. On May 29, 1955, ground was broken for a new sanctuary and the complete renovation of the original church building. The cornerstone was laid on October 15, 1955, and the building was dedicated on September 30, 1956, with Dr. Calvern N. Ellis as the dedicatory speaker. The total cost of the building, including the furnishings and a new pipe organ, was \$143,623.24. The building program was under the supervision of a committee composed of Elmer Hock, Bruce Bard, Joseph Faust, Glenn Koons, Carl Stouffer and Pastor Long. Mr. John F. Picking, also a member of the congregation, served as the general contractor of the building program. Though a major and time consuming effort, the building program gave the congregation new zeal and inspiration, providing a blessing to all. The church stands as a tribute to the untiring efforts of the membership of the church. Other accomplishments noted during this period are the incorporation of the church, the establishment of a Board of Administration and commission plan of organization, the institution of the "Undershepherd Plan" of visitation, the issuance of weekly church bulletins, and the establishment of a unified budget.

Even a brief history of a congregation would not be complete without notation of those, other than pastors, who have given spiritual leadership to the congregation over the years. The following is a list of those presiding elders or moderators who have served the church:

William A. Anthony -----	1907 to 1911
Peter S. Lehman -----	1911 to 1924
Charles H. Steerman -----	1924 to 1926
George S. Batzel -----	1926 to 1928
S. D. Hartranft -----	1928 to 1932
B. F. Lightner -----	1932 to 1935
C. E. Grapes -----	1935 to 1941
Maurice B. Mentzer -----	1941 to 1944
George L. Detweiler -----	1944 to 1945
Robert L. Cocklin -----	1945 to 1954
Otho J. Hassinger -----	1954 to 1957
G. A. W. Stouffer -----	1957 to present

During the years the church called two men to the ministry: F. E. McCoy, in 1910, and Adam E. Forney, in 1911. Brother Forney served the Chambersburg church as a minister continuously until his death in 1942. Brother M. B. Mentzer, who served the church previously as its presiding elder, brought his church membership to Chambersburg in 1952 and has served faithfully with the pastors until the present time.

The Deacon Board of the church has always been instrumental in the development of the spiritual life of the church. Those serving as deacons in the past were:

Milton Brumbaugh	George Byers	William Monn
Jesse Berger	Samuel Keefer	Preston Eshleman
J. J. Kriner	John Lehman	Frank Sellers
John W. Crusey	C. Lehman Wenger	Elmer Hock

The present deacon body consists of the following:

E. Bruce Bard	Wesley Crusey	Glenn Koons
S. Blaine Bear	Ray Faust	Carl Stouffer
Dean Bricker	C. W. Foust	G. A. W. Stouffer
Abram I. Burkholder	Roy Frushour	Glenn Stouffer
Samuel Burkholder	Clarence Hartman	Fred Witter
Raymond Crusey	Robert Hock	Harry Witter

The history, necessarily brief, has been written with an attempt to portray some of the significant events in the life of a congregation. Not all has been said, nor have all names been mentioned who made vital contributions to the life and growth of the church. Through the fifty years of history, men and women have made sacrifices to continue the work of the church — such devoted Christians will be needed in the next fifty years of service. The history does not end here, but what we have written today, is history tomorrow. With a membership of over five hundred, the Chambersburg Church of the Brethren looks to the future with an increasing zest for doing the will of their Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Under His lordship, the Brethren in Chambersburg move into the future, dedicated to the proclamation of His gospel, the advancement of His cause and the establishment of His kingdom upon the earth.



THE LATE REV. ADAM E. FORNEY — Long time minister in the congregation.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY GENERAL COMMITTEE

Glenn Stouffer, Chairman

Wesley Crusey

Glenn Koons

Robert L. Rotz

Mrs. Rhoda Wenger

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Wesley Crusey, Chairman

Blaine Beard

Miss Shirley Hartman

Mrs. Huber Shetter

G. A. W. Stouffer

HISTORY AND ANNIVERSARY BOOKLET COMMITTEE

Clarence W. Foust

Mrs. Charles Fox

Mrs. Frank Hull

INVITATION COMMITTEE

Mr. and Mrs. E. Bruce Bard

Mr. and Mrs. Abram Burkholder

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